Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) A method of disambiguating database search results within a speech interface, the method comprising:

retrieving multiple database entries responsive to a database search, wherein said retrieved database entries include a plurality of common data fields;

processing ~~data items in each of~~ the common data fields of said retrieved database entries according to predetermined disambiguation criteria including:[[;]]

excluding any data field having duplicate data items;

excluding any data field having at least one data item that is unpronounceable; and

excluding any data field having at lease one data item that exceeds a predetermined maximum length;

based upon said processing, identifying from among said plurality of common data fields at least one disambiguation data field that satisfies said predetermined disambiguation criteria;

~~excluding data fields having data items that are not able to be accurately pronounced using a speech interface, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup where the dictionary contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items;~~

selecting one disambiguation data field based on a predetermined selection criterion when more than one disambiguation data field is identified in the identifying step, ~~wherein the selected data field has not been excluded~~; and

presenting, through the speech interface, data items corresponding to said selected disambiguation data field for each said retrieved database entry, wherein said speech interface is used in conjunction with a system in which said database search is performed, and wherein said speech interface provides users of said system with an interface for searching for information contained within a database in which said database search was conducted and for audibly receiving results of said database search.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein <u>data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup with respect to a dictionary that contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items</u> ~~said processing step comprises:~~

~~excluding data fields of said retrieved database entries having duplicate data items.~~

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, ~~wherein said processing step further comprises:~~

~~excluding data fields having data items that exceed a predetermined maximum length,~~ wherein the maximum length is determined from an empirical analysis of a relative ease with which users recall audibly presented speech items.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein said selecting step comprises:

selecting the disambiguation data field having data items with a smallest average length.

24.   (Currently Amended)   A method of disambiguating database search results within a speech interface, the method comprising:

retrieving multiple database entries responsive to a database search, wherein said retrieved database entries include a plurality of common data fields;

processing ~~data items in each of~~ the common data fields of said retrieved database entries according to predetermined disambiguation criteria including:[[;]]

excluding any data field having duplicate data items;

excluding any data field having at least one data item that is unpronounceable; and

excluding any data field having at lease one data item that exceeds a predetermined maximum length;

based upon said processing, identifying from among said plurality of common data fields at least one disambiguation data field that satisfies said predetermined disambiguation criteria;

~~excluding data fields having data items that are not able to be accurately pronounced using a speech interface, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup where the dictionary contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items;~~

selecting one disambiguation data field based on a user input when more than one disambiguation data field is identified in the identifying step, ~~wherein the selected data field has not been excluded~~; and

presenting, through the speech interface, data items corresponding to said selected disambiguation data field for each said retrieved database entry, wherein said speech interface is used in conjunction with a system in which said database search is performed,

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and wherein said speech interface provides users of said system with an interface for searching for information contained within a database in which said database search was conducted and for audibly receiving results of said database search.

25.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 24, wherein <u>data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup with respect to a dictionary that contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items</u> ~~said processing step comprises:~~

~~excluding data fields of said retrieved database entries having duplicate data items.~~

26.   (Cancelled)

27.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 24, ~~wherein said processing step further comprises:~~

~~excluding data fields having data items that exceed a predetermined maximum length,~~ wherein the maximum length is determined from an empirical analysis of a relative ease with which users recall audibly presented speech items.

28.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 24, further comprising:

receiving a user input specifying a data item associated with said selected disambiguation data field to disambiguate said retrieved database entries.

29.   (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform the steps of:

retrieving multiple database entries responsive to a database search, wherein said retrieved database entries include a plurality of common data fields;

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processing ~~data items in each of~~ the <u>common</u> data fields of said retrieved database entries according to predetermined disambiguation criteria <u>including:</u>[[;]]

<u>excluding any data field having duplicate data items;</u>

<u>excluding any data field having at least one data item that is unpronounceable; and</u>

<u>excluding any data field having at lease one data item that exceeds a predetermined maximum length;</u>

based upon said processing, identifying from among said plurality of common data fields at least one disambiguation data field that satisfies said predetermined disambiguation criteria;

~~excluding data fields having data items that are not able to be accurately pronounced using a speech interface, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup where the dictionary contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items;~~

selecting one disambiguation data field based on a predetermined selection criterion when more than one disambiguation data field is identified in the identifying step~~, wherein the selected data field has not been excluded~~; and

presenting, through the speech interface, data items corresponding to said selected disambiguation data field for each said retrieved database entry, wherein said speech interface is used in conjunction with a system in which said database search is performed, and wherein said speech interface provides users of said system with an interface for searching for information contained within a database in which said database search was conducted and for audibly receiving results of said database search.

30.   (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable storage of claim 29, wherein

data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup with respect to a dictionary that contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items ~~said processing step comprises:~~

 ~~excluding data fields of said retrieved database entries having duplicate data items.~~

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable storage of claim 29, ~~said processing step further comprises:~~

 ~~excluding data fields having data items that exceed a predetermined maximum length,~~ wherein the maximum length is determined from an empirical analysis of a relative ease with which users recall audibly presented speech items.

33. (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable storage of claim 29, said selecting step comprises:

 selecting the disambiguation data field having data items with a smallest average length.

34. (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform the steps of:

 retrieving multiple database entries responsive to a database search, wherein said retrieved database entries include a plurality of common data fields;

 processing ~~data items in each of~~ the <u>common</u> data fields of said retrieved database entries according to predetermined disambiguation criteria <u>including:</u>[[;]]

 <u>excluding any data field having duplicate data items;</u>

excluding any data field having at least one data item that is unpronounceable; and

excluding any data field having at lease one data item that exceeds a predetermined maximum length;

based upon said processing, identifying from among said plurality of common data fields at least one disambiguation data field that satisfies said predetermined disambiguation criteria;

~~excluding data fields having data items that are not able to be accurately pronounced using a speech interface, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup where the dictionary contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items;~~

selecting one disambiguation data field based on a user input when more than one disambiguation data field is identified in the identifying step~~, wherein the selected data field has not been excluded~~; and

presenting, through the speech interface, data items corresponding to said selected disambiguation data field for each said retrieved database entry, wherein said speech interface is used in conjunction with a system in which said database search is performed, and wherein said speech interface provides users of said system with an interface for searching for information contained within a database in which said database search was conducted and for audibly receiving results of said database search.

35.   (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable storage of claim 34, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup with respect to a dictionary that contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items ~~said processing step comprises:~~

~~excluding data fields of said retrieved database entries having duplicate data items.~~

36.   (Cancelled)

37.   (Currently Amended)   The computer -readable storage of claim 34, ~~wherein said processing step further comprises:~~

~~excluding data fields having data items that exceed a predetermined maximum length,~~ wherein the maximum length is determined from an empirical analysis of a relative ease with which users recall audibly presented speech items.

38.   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable storage of claim 34, further comprising:

receiving a user input specifying a data item associated with said selected disambiguation data field to disambiguate said retrieved database entries.